A Sad, but a True

RELATION OF A PERSON WHO

On *Munday* the 15*th.* of this Instant *February*, was found Dead in a Wood near

HIGHGATE;

Being

First discovered by the Dogs of some Gentlemen that were there Hunting.

THere is but one way of coming into the World but many passages out; nothing is so sure as Death, and nothing so uncertain as the time. We may be two old to Live, but can never be too young to Die; for who knows when Death will Summon him, whether in Youth, in Manhood, or in Old Age; we have frequent Examples of all; or who knows whether God will take away his Life by a long Death-bed Sickness; whether thou mayst Die by the Sword, or by any sudden Casualty; of all which we have daily Examples in our Weekly Bills of Mortality, and this present Story Relates a Remarkable one, of one supposed by some Papers found about him,

to

to be named *John Higgens*, who on *Monday* the 15*th.* of *February*, was in this manner found Dead.

Squire *Fawcett* and ſome other Gentlemen being a Hunting the day aforeſaid, the Dogs running into a wood in the Pariſh of *Finchley*, near *Highgate*, in their Scent found the Body of the aforeſaid Mr. *Higgens*, and made ſome ſtop, upon which the Gentlemen coming up ſaw the ſaid Body lying on one ſide, and was ſo putrified they were fain to get the weather ſide: His Eyes were both Eaten or pecked out, but that which was moſt remarkable, the inſide was eaten with Vermin, and the Skin in a manner whole; he had on a Black *French Hat*, and a Mourning Hat-band, with a white Cloth bound about his Head; he had alſo a Black Suit almoſt New, but that part which was downward Rotted away, by the dampneſs of the Earth: He had a pair of Fring'd Gloves, a new pair of Shoes, with ſteel Buckles, a Bamboon Cane with a Silver Head. The Gentlemen leaveing off their Game, orders were given for his removal to one Mr. *Ralph Bradſhaw*'s Barn, after which he was Cried in thoſe parts, but no Relation could be given of him; then the Maſters of the Pariſh ſent for Mr. *Hariſon* the Coroner, who iſſued out his Warrant to impannel a Jury, which done, they ſat upon the ſaid Body at Mr. *Bradſhaw*'s Houſe, formerly the *Kings-Arms* without *Highgate*; his Shirt was marked with *F. D.* In his Pockets were two Neckcloths, ſome ſmall matter of Money, and three written Sermons, each of which had the name of *John Higgins*; which Sermons are in the Hands of the aforeſaid Mr. *Bradſhaw*, where any Perſon may go and Read them: The Text of one was in the 19*th.* of St. *Luke.* and the latter part of the 13*th.* Verſe, *Occupy till I come.* The other *Iſaith* 53 the latter part of the 8*th.* Verſe, *For the Tranſgreſſion of my People*

CCXXV.

People was he Stricken. The other *Eccleſiaſtes* the 11th the latter part of the 9th. Verſe, *But know that for theſe things God will bring you into Judgment.* The Jury ordered the Corps to be Buried on *Friday* Night laſt, at *Finchley*, ſome two Miles from *Highgate*, but ſuſpended their Verdict for ſome time, it is believed he could not have been Dead leſs than ſix Weeks. Thus we ſee every Week produces freſh Inſtances of one ſad Spectacle or other, which Divine Providence often times permits to happen, that the ſurvivours may be timely warned of their latter end: Let therefore every Chriſtian make a right improvement of theſe Judgments, by a holy amendment of Life, in living every Day as they were to Die the next, and humbly to ſupplicate the Almighty, in that form of Prayer taught us by the Church, *From Plague, Peſtilence, and Famin, from Battel and Murder, and from ſudden Death good Lord Deliver us.*

FINIS.

This may be Printed, R. P.

LONDON,
Printed by *George Croom*, at the *Blue-Ball* in *Thames-ſtreet*, near *Baynard's-Caſtle.* 168[illegible].

FINIS.

This may be Printed, R. P.

LONDON,

Printed by George Green, at the Blue-Ball in Thames-street,
near Bennet's-Hyth. 1681.